

COAL MINE FATALITY - On Friday, September 23, 2016, a 46-year-old miner was fatally injured in a vehicle accident that occurred along a portion of a mine's access/haul road. The victim (passenger) and a coworker (driver) were traveling down an inclined portion of the road when the driver apparently lost control of the pickup truck, causing it to strike the road berm and roll over in the roadway.



Best Practices

- Always wear a seat belt when operating mobile equipment, including personal trucks and automobiles.
- Operate vehicles and equipment at safe speeds, maintain control at all times, and adjust speed for the prevailing conditions (road grade, visibility, inclement weather, etc).
- Avoid using hand-held cell phones or texting while operating any mobile equipment.
- Ensure that traffic rules, speed limits, and warning signs are posted in visible locations along the roadway. Ensure the rules are obeyed.
- Ensure that access roads on mine property used by miners in personal vehicles are maintained and are free of hazards.
- Provide proper training to all employees on roadway hazards.
- Maintain steering and braking systems in good repair and adjustment.

This is the eighth fatality reported in calendar year 2016 in the coal mining industry and the third fatality classified as Powered Haulage. As of this date in 2015, there were nine fatalities reported in the coal mining industry. At this time in 2015, there were two fatalities in this classification.